

# *American Notes, Pt. 2*

## POLITICS

SEPTEMBER 13-OCTOBER 18, 2021, now to then

10/18/21 Headlines

8:42 AM 10/18/2021

### **#Breaking: Colin Powell, the former secretary of state, dies at 84**

Powell's family said that he died Monday of complications from COVID-19, despite being fully vaccinated. Powell served as secretary of state under George W. Bush. (NPR)



[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colin\\_Powell#/media/File:DA-SD-05-00599.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colin_Powell#/media/File:DA-SD-05-00599.jpg)

**Colin Luther Powell** (/ˈkoʊlɪn/ KOHL-in;[1] April 5, 1937 – October 18, 2021) was an American politician, diplomat, statesman, and four-star general who served as the 65th United States Secretary of State from 2001 to 2005. He was the first African-American Secretary of State... He served as the 16th United States National Security Advisor from 1987 to 1989 and as the 12th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 1989 to 1993.

Powell was born in New York City in 1937 and was raised in the South Bronx. ..He was educated in the New York City public schools, graduating from the City College of New York (CCNY), where he earned a bachelor's degree in geology. He also participated in ROTC at CCNY and received a

commission as an Army second lieutenant upon graduation in June 1958. He was a professional soldier for 35 years, during which time he held many command and staff positions and rose to the rank of four-star general. He was Commander of the U.S. Army Forces Command in 1989.

Powell's last assignment, from October 1989 to September 1993, was as the 12th chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the highest military position in the Department of Defense. During this time, he oversaw 28 crises, including the invasion of Panama in 1989 and Operation Desert Storm in the Persian Gulf War against Iraq in 1990–1991. He formulated the Powell Doctrine which limits American military action unless it satisfies criteria regarding American national security interests, overwhelming force, and widespread public support....Powell was the chairman of America's Promise – The Alliance for Youth, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to mobilizing people from every sector of American life to build the character and competence of young people. He won numerous U.S. and foreign military awards and decorations. His civilian awards included the Presidential Medal of Freedom (twice), the Congressional Gold Medal, the Presidential Citizens Medal, the Secretary of State Distinguished Service Medal, and the Secretary of Energy Distinguished Service Medal.

Powell, who was being treated for blood cancer, died on October 18, 2021, from complications of COVID-19. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colin\\_Powell](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colin_Powell)

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## **Slate**

*Buttigieg: "I'm Not Going to Apologize to Tucker Carlson" for Taking Paternity Leave*  
22 hours ago

## **Just Jared**

*Pete Buttigieg Claps Back at Tucker Carlson Over Criticism of His Paternity Leave*  
17 hours ago

## **Queerty**

Pete Buttigieg: "I'm not going to apologize to Tucker Carlson"  
4 hours ago

## **Watch Pete Buttigieg Eviscerate Tucker Carlson for Attacking Him About Parental Leave**

<https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2021/10/watch-pete-buttigieg-eviscerate-tucker-carlson-for-attacking-him-about-parental-leave/>

As a new father of twins, the Transportation secretary has some thoughts about a policy the Biden administration is pushing.

Thursday night on his Fox News broadcast, Tucker Carlson attacked Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg for taking parental leave to care for his and his husband Chasten's infant twins. "Pete Buttigieg has been on leave from his job since August after adopting a child," Carlson ranted. "Paternity leave, they call it, trying to figure out how to breastfeed. No word on how that went."

There are so many rancid homophobic messages in those three sentences that there is no need to unpack them here. Even conservative stalwart Bill Kristol tweeted, Buttigieg would be entitled to describe Carlson as a "repulsive bigot, and that his response to Carlson is, 'F \_\_\_\_ off.'"

But on Sunday morning on CNN's State of the Union, Buttigieg chose another option when he was asked by host Jake Tapper if he would like to comment on Carlson's remarks. "As you might imagine," Buttigieg replied, "we are bottle feeding and doing it at all hours of the day and night. I'm not going to apologize to Tucker Carlson or anyone else for taking care of our premature newborn twins."

Buttigieg's parental leave is in line with President Joe Biden's decision to make paid family and parental leave central to his domestic agenda. After Carlson's remarks, White House press secretary Jen Psaki, tweeted that she's proud to be working with people like Buttigieg "who are role models on the importance of paid leave for new parents." Buttigieg himself told Tapper, "The work that we are doing is joyful, fulfilling, wonderful work. It's important work, and it's work that every American ought to be able to do when they welcome a new child into their family. I campaigned on that."

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## **A pill can reduce deaths by half in new coronavirus patients, company says**

October 1, 2021 7:29 AM ET (Associated Press)

<https://www.npr.org/2021/10/01/1042247080/merck-drug-pill-covid-death-hospitalization-treat>

Merck and its partner Ridgeback Biotherapeutics said early results showed patients who received the drug, called molnupiravir, within five days of COVID-19 symptoms had about half the rate of hospitalization and death as patients who received a dummy pill. The study tracked 775 adults with mild-to-moderate COVID-19 who were considered higher risk for severe disease due to health problems such as obesity, diabetes or heart disease.

Among patients taking molnupiravir, 7.3% were either hospitalized or died at the end of 30 days, compared with 14.1% of those getting the dummy pill. There were no deaths in the drug group after that time period compared with eight deaths in the placebo group, according to Merck. The results were released by the company and have not been peer reviewed. Merck said it plans to present them at a future medical meeting.

Side effects were reported by both groups in the Merck trial, but they were slightly more common among the group that received a dummy pill. The company did not specify the problems.

Earlier study results showed the drug did not benefit patients who were already hospitalized with severe disease.

Merck's pill works by interfering with an enzyme the coronavirus uses to copy its genetic code and reproduce itself. It has shown similar activity against other viruses.

The U.S. government has committed to purchase 1.7 million doses of the drug if it is authorized by the FDA. Merck has said it can produce 10 million doses by the end of the year and has contracts with governments worldwide. The company has not announced prices.

Several other companies, including Pfizer and Roche, are studying similar drugs that could report results in the coming weeks and months.

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## Lulu Garcia-Navarro

@lourdesgnavarro

Piñata Some news from me: I am heading to @nytopinion and I am thrilled to open up a new chapter doing what I love: telling real stories about people and how they move in the world and why they think the way they do.

10:38 AM · Sep 30, 2021 · Twitter Web App

205 Retweets

81 Quote Tweets

8,411 Likes

Big love to

@NPR

@NPRWeekend

always. Excited to join the @nytimes

10:41 AM · Sep 30, 2021 ·

## The Daily Beast

@thedailybeast

**Alex Jones and Infowars will be forced to pay whatever damages an upcoming jury panel determines his claims that the mass shooting was a “false flag” pulled off by “crisis actors” are worth.**

Alex Jones Found Liable in Two Sandy Hook Conspiracy Theory Lawsuits

A judge lambasted the conspiracy theorist and said he lost the suits because of his negligence.

thedailybeast.com

7:40 PM · Sep 30, 2021 · SocialFlow

1,555 Retweets

320 Quote Tweets

7,614 Likes

## Kyle Griffin

@kylegriffin1

**The effects of Louis DeJoy:**

**Americans could start seeing slowdowns in mail delivery as early as Friday, when the US Postal Service implements its new service standards.** The changes are part of Postmaster General DeJoy's 10-year plan for the agency. USPS to slow down some mail delivery starting Friday

*Americans across the country could start seeing slowdowns in mail delivery across the country as early as Friday when the United States Postal Service implements its new service standards.*

cnn.com

3:00 PM · Sep 30, 2021 · TweetDeck 1,219 Retweets 233 Quote Tweets 1,753 Likes

## Bain!

@tweetsfrombain

Replying to @kylegriffin1

As a rural mail carrier, I find this despicable. He is making us look bad and making my customers who I care deeply for to lose faith in me and the service I provide.

3:01 PM · Sep 30, 2021

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### Spectrum Bay News 9

@BN9

**BREAKING: Drugmakers Merck and Ridgeback Biotherapeutics announced Friday that they will seek authorization for an oral antiviral pill to fight COVID-19** after trial data shows it reduced risk of hospitalization and death by half.

Merck: Pill cuts risk of COVID hospitalization, death in half

Company said the pill showed "compelling results" at trial

baynews9.com

7:41 AM · Oct 1, 2021

### CBC News Alerts

@CBCAlerts

**Pharmaceutical company Merck says research found its experimental COVID-19 pill reduced hospitalizations** and deaths by half in people recently infected with the coronavirus. The study results were released by the company and have not been peer reviewed.

6:51 AM · Oct 1, 2021 · Twitter Web App

352 Retweets

112 Quote Tweets

954 Likes

### AP Europe

@AP\_Europe

· Sep 30

**A 96-year-old former secretary at a Nazi concentration camp skipped the planned start of her trial in Germany and is being sought on an arrest warrant.** <http://apne.ws/xEb70oj>

9:27 AM · Sep 30, 2021 ·

Anna Merlan

@annamerlan

how fast can she really skip, though

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NBC News @NBCNews

## US coronavirus deaths by month

**Feb 2020: 1**

**Mar: 3,767**

**Apr: 58,960**

**May: 42,099**

**June: 23,416**

**July: 26,164**

**Aug: 30,234**

**Sept: 23,341**

**Oct: 23,691**

**Nov: 37,172**

**Dec: 77,124**

**Jan 2021: 96,377**

**Feb: 72,880**

**Mar: 39,393**

**Apr: 25,413**

**May: 18,357**

**June: 9,775**

**July: 8,541**

**Aug: 27,194**

**Sept: 58,062**

9:16 AM · Oct 1, 2021 · TweetDeck

**Peter Alexander**

@PeterAlexander

**NEW: Supreme Court Justice Brett Kavanaugh has tested positive for COVID**, per the Court. His case was confirmed by a COVID test ahead of Justice Barrett's investiture today.

8:52 AM · Oct 1, 2021 · Twitter Web App

A Blue Dot in Oklahoma Water waveRainbowFlag of United States

@DANNI64AZ

Replying to

@PeterAlexander

Here's hoping Karma will do her job!

9:13 AM · Oct 1, 2021

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## Spectrum Bay News 9

@BN9

**Gov. Ron DeSantis is keeping his sights on the Sunshine State, at least for now.** The governor has affirmed that he will run for re-election next year and not for the presidency in 2024.

8:23 AM · Oct 1, 2021 · SocialNewsDesk

## ABC News

@ABC

*Ex-President Jimmy Carter, the oldest former U.S. chief executive ever, quietly marks his 97th birthday at home in southwest Georgia.*

8:18 AM · Oct 1, 2021

## WFLA NEWS

@WFLA

**School board group asks government for protection from threats over mask mandates**

School board group asks US for protection from threats over mask mandates

Parents and community members have been disrupting meetings and threatening board members in person, online and through the mail in a trend that merits attention from federal law enforcement agencies...

wfla.com

8:38 AM · Oct 1, 2021 · TweetDeck

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## Mike Barnes

@MikeBarnes4

**#RIP Tommy Kirk; the 'Old Yeller' and 'Shaggy Dog' star said being gay derailed his career:**

“Disney was a family film studio and I was supposed to be their young leading man. After they found out I was involved with someone, that was the end of Disney.”

*Tommy Kirk, Young Disney Actor in 'Old Yeller' and 'The Shaggy Dog,' Dies at 79*

*He also appeared with Fred MacMurray in two Flubber movies and with Annette Funicello in two Merlin Jones comedies.*

hollywoodreporter.com

4:09 PM · Sep 29, 2021 · Twitter Web App

131 Retweets

15 Quote Tweets

385 Likes

@Splash Lights Photos (Back in the Game For Now)

@Two\_Cams25

.

15h

Replying to

@MikeBarnes4

**What a shame that Disney, or his managers, stopped him from doing more in his acting career due to his sexuality.**

Urban Kirk @Urban\_Kirk 13h

*He was 21 while the person he was with was 15\*, that's why.*

ron gabriau @gabriauron 16h

Replying to @MikeBarnes4 and @ZaackHunt

*He was cute and I liked him. Career derailed because of being gay. It certainly was a different time, however, history has a way of repeating itself.*

Kristin Marie

@Eris0303 @MikeBarnes4

and

@THR

Psst - Kirk didn't play Macmurray's son in The Absent-Minded Professor. He was Keenan Wynn's kid

**Disney**

@Disney

**We are saddened by the passing of Tommy Kirk, the beloved and iconic star of such Disney family favorites from the 1950s and 1960s as Old Yeller, The Shaggy Dog, Swiss Family Robinson, and The Misadventures of Merlin Jones.**

6:33 PM · Sep 29, 2021 · Twitter Web App

449 Retweets

113 Quote Tweets

2,245 Likes

**\*During the production of “Merlin Jones,” Kirk, then 21, said he began seeing a 15-year-old boy, Variety reported.**

(KIRO website)

*'While filming the movie, Kirk, then 21, started seeing a 15-year-old boy he had met at a swimming pool. Disney execs learned about the relationship through the boy's mother, and Kirk was let go, though he did return for one more movie, Merlin Jones sequel The Monkey's Uncle (1965).*

*“When I was about 17 or 18 years old, I finally admitted to myself that [I was gay and] wasn't going to change,” he told Kevin Minton in an interview for a 1993 article titled “Sex, Lies, and Disney Tape: Walt's Fallen Star” for Filmfax magazine. “I didn't know what the consequences would be, but I had the definite feeling that it was going to wreck my Disney career and maybe my whole acting career.”*

*He added, “Disney was a family film studio and I was supposed to be their young leading man. After they found out I was involved with someone, that was the end of Disney.” ' (Variety)*

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**Intel Point ALERT**

@IntelPointAlert

Warning signFlag of United States#

**URGENT: Stabbing incident reported at Annapolis High School in Maryland**

#Annapolis l #MD

*EMS personnel are staging outside following reports of multiple students being stabbed. Police warn*



*this still remains an 'active incident'.*

*The school has entered lockdown protocol.*

9:14 AM · Sep 29, 2021 from Annapolis, MD · Twitter for iPhone

122 Retweets

18 Quote Tweets

158 Likes

Intel Point ALERT

@IntelPointAlert

Warning signFlag of United States#UPDATE: Anne Arundel Police confirm multiple serious assault patients

Initial Report:

- 911 receives call of violent disturbance at approximately 8:50pm EST
- Staff locates at least 2 stabbing victims
- EMS personnel staging outside
- Police working to find a suspect

Anne Arundel Police

@AACOPD

**There is no active threat at the school. There will be a strong police presence remaining at the school.**

**Quote Tweet**

**Anne Arundel Police**

@AACOPD

· 2h

Numerous units on scene at Annapolis High School for what's believed to be multiple serious assaults. PIO enroute ~1 hour ETA. Media Staging at Board of Ed Parking Lot, 2644 Riva Road.

10:02 AM · Sep 29, 2021 ·

steve

@usnjpolk

.

1h

If there's no active threat then why the police presence?

Christopher Shea

@CKeefeShea

Replying to

@usnjpolk

and

@AACOPD

*Fights were so serious they had to put the school in lockdown. Possibly gang related?*

Maintaining police presence to deter retribution assaults a good idea.

11:56 AM · Sep 29, 2021

Bill Cosby receives criticism for his comments on the R. Kelly trial reported by his spokesperson to TMZ

R&B singer R. Kelly was found guilty on Monday in his federal trial, where he faced charges relating to the sexual exploitation and physical abuse of women and children.

TMZ@TMZ

19h

Bill Cosby thinks R. Kelly got railroaded in his federal sex crimes case.

The Volatile Mermaid

@OhNoSheTwitnt

*Sure we know how Bill Cosby feels about rapists but I'm waiting to hear from Harvey Weinstein, Donald Trump, and Roman Polanski before deciding how I feel about R. Kelly.*

9:07 AM · Sep 29, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone 145 Retweets 1,343 Likes

**Robert Reich**

@RBReich

**Who would have thought that the entire Democratic agenda -- from climate change to children -- would depend on just 2 heretofore little-known Democratic senators who are really Republicans, Kyrsten Sinema and Joe Manchin?**

12:35 AM · Sep 29, 2021 · Twitter Web App

1,993 Retweets

113 Quote Tweets

7,561 Likes

**Barash - Donation Drive LIVE! (recent SNAP beneficiary, Florida)**

@BarashBenski

TMI

*I want to huff some poppers and suck some dicks right now. and get felt up, etc.*

2:11 PM · Sep 26, 2021 · Twitter Web App

8 Likes

Quote Tweet

Pedro L. Gonzalez

@emeriticus

· 4h

**Exclusive: Sources reveal South Dakota governor and potential 2024 VP candidate Kristi Noem is having an extramarital affair with former Trump campaign manager Corey Lewandowski.**

<https://amgreatness.com/2021/09/28/kristi-noem-shows-why-republicans-cant-have-nice-things/>

Show this thread

11:54 AM · Sep 29, 2021 · Twitter Web App

Mrs. Betty Bowers@BettyBowers

"Strong families have always been the backbone of South Dakota. The kitchen table is where we learn our values. The backyard is where we learn to respect each other. The bedroom is where we learn how to pray."—Kristi Noem

*I guess we now know what she was praying for.*

Maggie Haberman  
@maggieNYT

**Lewandowski out, per Trump spokesman: “Pam Bondi...has our complete faith and confidence in taking over MAGA Action.** Corey Lewandowski will be going on to other endeavors and we very much want to thank him for his service. He will no longer be associated with Trump World.”

8:44 PM · Sep 29, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

Richard Signorelli  
@richsignorelli

Replying to

@maggieNYT

*I wonder if*

@KristiNoem

*breaks up with him now, if the reports of their affair are accurate (she has not yet specifically & expressly denied the affair to the best of my knowledge).*

8:47 PM · Sep 29, 2021

Denise R. Bradley

@DemonRB

Replying to

@richsignorelli

@maggieNYT

and

@KristiNoem

**Kristi Noem Denies Affair With Ex-Trump Aide:** <https://thedailybeast.com/south-dakota-gov-kristi-noem-denies-affair-with-ex-trump-aide-corey-lewandowski?via=newsletter>

via

@thedailybeast

8:53 PM · Sep 29, 2021 · Twitter Web App

1 Retweet

1 Like

lil bit Irish

@tinydancer0318

.

13h

Replying to

@DemonRB

@richsignorelli

and 3 others

*Of course she does.*

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**Anna Merlan [J&J Vaccine recipient]**

@annamerlan

**This is fun, because there is pretty much no way to honestly get a JnJ booster anywhere that isn't San Francisco, and millions of Americans don't actually have a primary care doctor to consult anyway**  
*For People Who Got The J&J Vaccine, Some Doctors Are Advising Boosters ASAP*

*Boosters are available for higher-risk people who got the Pfizer vaccine. But what about people who got the one-shot Johnson & Johnson? Some doctors say they need an extra shot even more urgently.*

npr.org

9:10 AM · Sep 30, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

1 Retweet

22 Likes

Anna Merlan

@annamerlan 50m Replying to @annamerlan

*I love our highly functional system and I can't understand why anyone would want to change it, anyway I'm off to yell at Cigna for illegally charging me, again, for a COVID test from a county health site!*

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**NBC News @NBCNews**

**Washington, D.C., and state capitols across the country brace for protests aimed at calling attention to what organizers say is the unfair treatment of people charged in the Jan. 6 riot at the Capitol.**

Top cops say the U.S. Capitol and the D.C. Metropolitan Police departments are prepared to prevent a repeat of the Jan. 6 Capitol riot Saturday.

nbcnews.com

10:15 AM · Sep 18, 2021 ·

**Bill Maher**

@billmaher

*QAnoners are warning that the #JusticeforJ6 rally today is a false flag government plot to round up more of them. You just knew they'd eventually get here. Too paranoid to attend their own paranoia rally.*

2:23 AM · Sep 18, 2021

Billiards LDThillFace with medical maskCactusVaccine: Passport to Normal

@rAgingPachyderm

*I have been monitoring the Twitter feed of Matt Breynard, organizer of the #JusticeForJ6 hate rally. Very few likes on his posts. He is trying to dispel the rumor that the rally is a Justice Department trap.*

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**Kyle Griffin**

@kylegriffin1

**Florida just became the 4th state with 50,000 COVID deaths.**

Its recent Covid surge was so bad there were oxygen shortages. forbes.com

8:00 AM · Sep 17, 2021

**DR. KRUPALI** Flag of United States

@krupali

Replying to

@kylegriffin1

*Incompetent governor needs to be held responsible*

8:00 AM · Sep 17, 2021 · Tw

**WFLA NEWS**

@WFLA

**New poll shows DeSantis approval falling as Republicans welcome fight over more COVID-19 restrictions** |9:37 PM · Sep 16, 2021

**Kyle Griffin**

@kylegriffin1

**A federal judge blocked part of the anti-protest bill enacted by Florida Republicans and Ron DeSantis**, writing that officials' reaction to peaceful protests in 2020 is akin to the unlawful racist backlash seen during 1960s protests against Jim Crow laws.

7:00 AM · Sep 17, 2021

**WFLA NEWS**@WFLA

**#BREAKING: Florida AG Ashley Moody suing Biden administration over COVID-19 vaccine mandate**

6:03 PM · Sep 16, 2021 ·

**Don Winslow**

@donwinslow

NEW VIDEO: #FloridaIsVietnam

*Under @GovRonDeSantis Covid Deaths in Florida will surpass American deaths during \*ENTIRE\* Vietnam war.*

5:07 PM · Sep 16, 2021

**Mary L Trump**

@MaryLTrump

**This is how we fight--no pulling punches. Ron DeSantis is willfully killing the citizens of his own state. And for what?**

#FloridaIsVietnam #GetVaccinatedNow #VoteThemAllOut

10:40 PM · Sep 16, 2021

1,603 Retweets 78 Quote Tweets 3,839 Likes

**ABC News**

@ABC

**A new study ties the COVID-19 pandemic to an “alarming” increase in obesity in U.S. children and teenagers.**6:33 AM · Sep 17, 2021

**Norman Ornstein**

@NormOrnstein

*Clarence Thomas, whose rulings in key cases mysteriously always conform with his*

*political and partisan preferences, says the justices do not make decisions based on politics. Hahahahaha*

Justice Thomas defends the Supreme Court's independence and warns of 'destroying our institutions'  
Thomas says justices are not ruling based on "personal preferences."

washingtonpost.com

10:14 PM · Sep 16, 2021

**James Fallows**@JamesFallows

Replying to @NormOrnstein

*Have heard this in the past week from Breyer (on book tour), AC Barrett (at McConnell Institute, introduced by McConnell), and now Thomas.*

*Must be true.*

10:25 PM · Sep 16, 2021 ·

**Variety**@Variety

**Jane Powell, who starred in a number of MGM musicals including "Royal Wedding" and "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" during the 1940s and 1950s, has died of natural causes. She was 92 years old.**

6:04 PM · Sep 16, 2021 ·

**Ben Mankiewicz** @BenMank77

*Jane's raucous enthusiasm is what makes Royal Wedding go. It's a favorite of mine and a wildly underrated MGM musical. And Jane was always so kind to all of us at @TCM*  
. She was charming, funny, and always game.

*Jane Powell Dies: Hollywood Golden Age Actress & 'Royal Wedding' Star Was 92*

*Jane Powell, who made her screen debut with W.C. Fields, danced with Fred Astaire in Royal Wedding, was one of seven brides for seven brothers in the classic 1954 film musical, sang "Buttons ...*  
*deadline.com*

5:58 PM · Sep 16, 2021

**MeidasTouch.com**

@MeidasTouch

**Far right Republican Laura Loomer has a bad case of COVID and says she is "in so much pain."**

This post from December\* is a reminder that you should be careful what you wish for...

\*"I hope I get Covid just so I can prove to people I've had bouts of food poisoning that are more serious and life threatening than a hyped up virus. Have you ever eaten bad fajitas? That will kill you faster than Covid."

9:19 PM · Sep 16, 2021 ·

**H**□□□□□□□□□□@houndinater

Replying to @MeidasTouch

*After losing my mother to Covid last November (and having 60 seconds to say goodbye on FaceTime), I have progressed from having no sympathy for Covid deniers to full on glee when they get it and suffer. Maybe that's wrong but I just don't give a fuck anymore.*

11:31 PM · Sep 16, 2021

**Kyle Griffin**@kylegriffin1

**Colorado Gov. Jared Polis, the first openly gay male governor in the U.S., married his longtime partner Marlon Reis this week. It marked the first same-sex wedding of a sitting U.S. governor.**

2:00 PM · Sep 17, 2021 ·

**MeidasTouch.com**

@MeidasTouch

Scoop:

**@CharlieCrist reveals that Ron Desantis's staffers MOCK him behind his back and call him 'wRONG DeSantis' because he is an incompetent fool who can't do anything right**

12:15 PM · Sep 17, 2021 ·

**Anna Merlan**

@annamerlan

It brings immense pleasure to say I have missed the media drama, whatever it is. Do not tell me or I will instantly die

3:51 PM · Sep 17, 2021 ·

**NBC News**@NBCNews

**3 people arrested for allegedly assaulting an NYC restaurant hostess after she asked a group of diners visiting from Texas to show proof they had been vaccinated before seating them.**

Cellphone footage obtained by NBC New York shows a brawl outside Carmine's on the Upper West Side.

nbcnews.com

4:39 PM · Sep 17, 2021

*Footage obtained by NBC New York shows an intense scuffle outside of Carmine's Italian restaurant on the Upper West Side on Thursday evening. The three tourists, who are from Texas, are alleged to have begun repeatedly punching a 22-year-old hostess after she asked them to show proof they were vaccinated before entering the restaurant, in accordance with local regulations. The hostess had to be taken to the hospital after the attack, according to NBC New York. Police arrested three women — 21-year-old Tyonnie Keshay Rankin, 44-year-old Kaeita Nkeenge Rankin, and 49-year-old Sally Rechelle Lewis — and they have since been charged with misdemeanor assault and criminal mischief, according to a Gothamist report (excerpted from NPR, which refuses to point out that the Texans were black, which would go against their usual liberal narrative.)*

**TXKicker Featuring ArchieTheDog**

@LoneStarKicker

**This infuriates and embarrasses me as a Texan. I hope they do jail time and lose their fucking jobs.**

Fellow Texans: keep your asses home if you don't like another state's laws.

2:02 PM · Sep 17, 2021

**Duty To Warn** Speaker with one sound wave

@duty2warn

**I wrote for Politico**

**I knew it's founder, John Harris  
Politico was a friend of mine.**

**But after being sold to far-right publisher Axel Springer,  
Politico,**

**You're no Politico.  
Not anymore  
You're Zombie Politico.  
@politico**

@JRubinBlogger  
11:44 AM · Sep 17, 2021 ·

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**The USA Singers@TheUSASingers  
They all knew Trump was unfit for office. Paul Ryan, Mitch McConnell, Lindsey Graham...**

**Every single one of them.**

**Yet they gleefully lined up to kiss the ring of a narcissistic madman so they could get their tax  
cuts & judges.**

**And now over 600,000 innocent Americans are dead.**

7:45 AM · Sep 16, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone  
970 Retweets  
80 Quote Tweets  
2,737 Likes

## **COVID-19**

.

September 14, 2021

**There is no evidence that COVID-19 vaccines cause male fertility problems, the CDC says**  
*Contrary to myths circulating on social media and to rapper Nicki Minaj's tweets during the Met Gala, medical experts and public health organizations say there is no evidence that COVID-19 vaccines affect male fertility. According to the CDC, professional societies for male reproduction recommend men who want to have babies in the future get a COVID-19 vaccine as "there is no evidence that vaccines, including COVID-19 vaccines, cause male fertility problems."*

Photo via @vanguardngrnews

**Sahil Kapur**

@sahilkapur

**The fence is back up around the Capitol ahead of a rally this Saturday** planned by far-right supporters of the mob that participated in the violent attack on January 6.

9:22 AM · Sep 16, 2021



**NBC News**

@NBCNews

**The widow of a U.S. Marine killed in a bombing in Afghanistan in August has given birth to a baby girl, family says.**

The widow of Lance Cpl. Rylee McCollum, 20, of Bondurant, Wyoming, gave birth to Levi Rylee Rose McCollum Monday.

nbcnews.com

7:58 AM · Sep 16, 2021 ·

**ABC News@ABC**

**UN official calls for moratorium on the sale and use of artificial intelligence technology that poses human rights risks — including the state use of facial recognition software.**6:32 AM · Sep 16, 2021

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-the-winoker-family-find-jason>

**Help the Winoker family find Jason**

\$5,974 raised of \$15,000 goal

Stefanie Johnson (sister/cousin of Renee) is organizing this fundraiser.

*Jason is still missing. He was last seen on the 16th of August and was reported missing the next day.*

*(update by editor: Winoker still missing, 10/18/21)*

**Kyle Griffin**

@kylegriffin1

**During a radio show interview, Roger Stone was served "a big, big stack of papers"** related to the federal lawsuit filed by seven Capitol Police officers against him. Roger Stone, the longtime political adviser, was served with a lawsuit while chatting live with a St. Louis radio station.

usatoday.com

3:30 PM · Sep 16, 2021

**Kyle Griffin**

@kylegriffin1

**The former, twice-impeached president just released a statement of support for the Jan. 6 insurrectionists saying,** quote: "Our hearts and minds are with the people being persecuted so unfairly."

2:30 PM · Sep 16, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

1,105 Retweets

306 Quote Tweets

3,974 Likes

**Kyle Griffin**

@kylegriffin1

**Almost 500,000: That's the number of children diagnosed with COVID from Sept. 2 to Sept. 9,** a number the American Academy of Pediatrics said has "increased exponentially."

@NBCNews

12:30 PM · Sep 16, 2021 · TweetDeck

3,748 Retweets  
481 Quote Tweets  
7,664 Likes

**DocRob** @DocRob

2h Replying to @kylegriffin1 @exavierpope and @NBCNews

*Cases in children does not = deaths. Of course cases will go up once reintroduced into society and schools.*

**Betty Maloney** @notdumborasleep 1h

*Death is not the endpoint to look at. This may sound cold but from a societal perspective, how many will have lifelong impairments and at what cost are the big questions.*

**DocRob** @DocRob 1h

That's a very fair question. On the other hand, one can also say the same thing for those who may have recovered naturally w/ min. symptoms or issues, but were worsened by manipulating the immune system w an unknown experimental entity. The vaccine makers have zero liability

**Betty Maloney**

@notdumborasleep

Replying to

@DocRob

@kylegriffin1  
and 2 others

*Do you really, at this point in time, consider the Pfizer vaccine experimental?*

3:01 PM · Sep 16, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

**DocRob**

@DocRob

.

1h

Replying to

@notdumborasleep

@kylegriffin1  
and 2 others

Yes. Very.

**Betty Maloney**

@notdumborasleep

.

1h

Why, please elaborate.

**DocRob**

@DocRob

.

58m

*Regardless of FDA position, this was set up as a drug experiment thru 2023. Then data will be fully analyzed.*

**Betty Maloney**

@notdumborasleep

.

44m

Evidence for that, please.

---

**Betty Maloney**

@notdumborasleep

Loves logic, good writing, and clever quips.

Joined April 2015

94 Following

50 Followers

---

**DocRob**

@DocRob

Your Concierge for Better Living. #Natural #Health #Doctor, Educator, #Chef, #Author... #LOHAS.

#Cannabis advocate

Arizona, Chicago, Fl, NYC..about.me/docrobJoined July 2006

6,320 Following

5,698 Followers

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**Men's Health Mag**

@MensHealthMag

**It's the latest anti-vaxxer tactic you should avoid at all costs.**

**Snorting and Gargling Iodine to Fight Covid-19 Is a Really Bad Idea**

**It's the latest anti-vaxxer tactic you should avoid at all costs.**

menshealth.com

3:03 PM · Sep 14, 2021

*Povidone iodine, commercially known as Betadine, is a topical disinfectant commonly used in hospitals, medical experts report. There is no evidence that Betadine prevents COVID-19 infection or treats COVID-19 illness, according to Aviro Health, the manufacturer of the product, and health professionals. Additionally, the manufacturer and medical professionals say consuming Betadine can result in poisoning, which can be life-threatening. @Reuters*

**Spectrum Bay News 9**

@BN9

**Norm Macdonald, the witty, sardonic, deadpan comedian known for his tenure as the anchor of "Weekend Update" on "Saturday Night Live" has died after a lengthy battle with cancer, according to multiple reports.**

3:27 PM · Sep 14, 2021

**John Cleese**

@JohnCleese

*There are very few really funny people*

*Norm MacDonald was one of them*

*It's infuriating to learn that his comedy was  
interfered with by the usual clueless executives*

2:25 AM · Sep 15, 2021 · Twitter Web App

372 Retweets 9 Quote Tweets 5,623 Likes

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qLOOuTuvonk>

lady uses live frog to eat bugs on walls

**Gulf-Times**

@GulfTimes\_QATAR

**Both North Korea and South Korea test fired ballistic missiles on Wednesday**, the latest volley in an arms race that has seen both countries develop increasingly sophisticated weapons while efforts to get talks going on defusing tension prove fruitless.

6:33 AM · Sep 15, 2021 ·

**Bloomberg Quicktake**

@Quicktake

*Here's what we know about North Korea's ballistic missile test:*

- *The missiles flew towards the Korean Peninsula's east coast*
- *They landed outside Japan's EEZ*
- *Test comes as Chinese Foreign Minister visits Seoul* <https://bloom.bg/3nAnPkf>

12:34 AM · Sep 15, 2021

**Kyle Griffin**

@kylegriffin1

**Gov. Newsom just now: "Tonight, I'm humbled, grateful, but resolved in the spirit of my political hero, Robert Kennedy, to make more gentle the life of this world."**

**He ends: "Thank you for rejecting this recall."**

12:00 AM · Sep 15, 2021 · Twitter Web App

1,275 Retweets

49 Quote Tweets

9,001 Likes

**Eric Swalwell**

@ericswalwell

*Goodnight anti-vaxxers. Goodnight anti-choicers. Goodnight gun nuts. Goodnight climate deniers.  
Goodnight moon.*

*And goodnight CA Radical Republicans.*

*Catch us at the midterms.*

11:44 PM · Sep 14, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

1,755 Retweets

133 Quote Tweets

12.6K Likes

**Mrs. Betty Bowers**

@BettyBowers

**Gavin Newson didn't just defeat the Republican power grab to steal his seat, he crushed those worthless POS.**

12:00 AM · Sep 15, 2021 · T

**Steve Herzfeld** Water wave @american2084

*Happy man raising one hand Raise your hand if you hope Val Demings defeats Marco Rubio for Senate next year.*

7:47 PM · Sep 14, 2021 · Twitter Web App

1,644 Retweets

189 Quote Tweets

9,301 Likes

**NBC News** @NBCNews

**504-pound alligator suspected of killing Louisiana man during Ida found with human remains in stomach**, authorities say. Timothy Satterlee Sr., a man who survived the devastating wrath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, was attacked by an alligator in Ida floodwaters on Aug. 30.

nbcnews.com

7:59 AM · Sep 15, 2021 · SocialFlow

**Right-Wing Pastor Greg Locke Attacks Followers Complaining** ...<https://www.newsweek.com> › ... › Pastor › Christian

*3 days ago — Controversial right-wing Pastor Greg Locke attacked members of his church who criticize him for using his sermons to discuss politics, ...*

*Twitter permanently bans Greg Locke, pro-Trump, anti-vax* ...<https://religionnews.com> › 2021/09/14 › twitter-bids-far...

*17 hours ago — Pastor of the independent Global Vision Bible Church in Mount Juliet, Tennessee, just east of Nashville, Locke was a relatively unknown figure ...*

**Mrs. Betty Bowers**

@BettyBowers

*Me: "Twitter has banned that loon Pastor Greg Locke."*

*Jesus: "WHO???"*

10:06 AM · Sep 15, 2021 · Twitter Web App

25 Retweets

1 Quote Tweet

255 Likes

(different pastor here)

**WFLA NEWS**

@WFLA

**Pastor raped children as young as 12, said he decides who goes to heaven or hell, according to victim testimony**

9:40 AM · Sep 15, 2021 · TweetDeck

<https://www.wfla.com/news/pastor-raped-children-as-young-as-12-told-them-he-chooses-who-goes-to-heaven-or-hell-according-to-victim-testimony/>

MOBILE, Ala. (WKRQ) – [note: all of the victims who have come forward are female]

Gregory Renee Adams, 63, was arrested at the end of July and is charged with three counts of rape first-degree, two counts of rape second-degree, three counts of sodomy first-degree, and two counts of sexual abuse....Four possible victims have come forward. The alleged crimes span back decades. The Mobile Police Department alleges Adams met his victims through churches within Citronelle and Waynesboro, Miss.

**Kyle Griffin**

@kylegriffin1

**It wasn't just Milley who intervened against Trump:** Axios reports then-Defense Secretary Mark Esper directed his policy office to issue a back-channel message to the Chinese to reassure them the U.S. had no intention of seeking a military confrontation.

Inside the crisis surrounding Joint Chiefs Chairman Mark Milley

He may face some of the most hostile questioning by Congress of any modern four-star general.

axios.com

11:00 AM · Sep 15, 2021

**Occupy Democrats**

@OccupyDemocrats

**BREAKING: A large Florida landlord announces that he will begin requiring all new and existing tenants to provide proof of COVID vaccination**, saying, "You don't want to get vaccinated? You have to move, and if you don't, we will evict you." RT IF YOU SUPPORT THE LANDLORD'S MOVE!

12:06 PM · Sep 15, 2021

@ABCPolitics

**Simone Biles reflects on 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games during testimony on Larry Nassar**

**investigation:** "The scars of this horrific abuse continue to live with all of us ... The impacts of this man's abuse are not ever over or forgotten."

11:04 AM · Sep 15, 2021 ·

**ABC Action News**

@abcactionnews

*The Federal Bureau of Investigation has fired an agent accused of failing to investigate sex abuse allegations against USA Gymnastics doctor Larry Nassar.*

1:00 PM · Sep 15, 2021

**Spectrum Bay News 9**

@BN9

**Pfizer said data from Israel and the U.S. show that protection from its vaccine against infection diminishes approximately 6 to 8 months after the second dose.** Clinical trials found that the efficacy dropped roughly 6 percentage points every two months.

Tweet

FDA releases Pfizer data making case for COVID-19 vaccine boosters

The company says its vaccine wanes over time.

baynews9.com

1:49 PM · Sep 15, 2021

**Kyle Griffin**

@kylegriffin1

**Jefferson County, Colorado is now mandating security at vaccine clinics** after:

One man slashed mobile clinic signs with a knife;

Another person threw lit fireworks into one of the tents;

And people hurled insults, trash and liquid at health workers.

*County mandates security at vaccine clinics after reports of fireworks attack and slashed signs*

*The harassment has grown more frequent and more threatening, said Jefferson County Public Health Executive Director Dawn Comstock.*

washingtonpost.com

2:30 PM · Sep 15, 2021

**Anna Merlan**

@annamerlan

I'm going to faint

Quote Tweet

Kevz Politics

@KevzPolitics

· 6h

**#BREAKING - Trinidad & Tobago Health Minister Dr. Terrence Deyalsingh responds to swollen testicle claim made by Trinidad-born entertainer @NICKIMINAJ; says there is no such reported case in Trinidad & Tobago (TTT)**

3:57 PM · Sep 15, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

49 Retweets

4 Quote Tweets

330 Likes

**Anna Merlan**

@annamerlan

*This man's swollen nuts went worldwide*

3:58 PM · Sep 15, 2021 · Tw

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**Kyle Griffin**

@kylegriffin1

**Two days after Jan. 6, Trump's top military adviser took top-secret action to limit Trump from ordering a dangerous military strike or launching nuclear weapons, according to 'Peril.'**

*Milley 'was certain that Trump had gone into a serious mental decline.' Woodward book: ]  
Two days after the January 6 attack on the US Capitol, President Donald Trump's top military adviser, Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Mark Milley, single-handedly took top-secret action to limit Trump...  
cnn.com*

12:20 PM · Sep 14, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

501 Retweets

**Kyle Griffin**

@kylegriffin1

**In a pair of secret phone calls in 2020 and 2021, Gen. Mark Milley, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, was so fearful that Trump might spark war that he assured his Chinese counterpart that the United States would not strike, according to 'Peril'.**

Sep 14, 2021 ·

**Kyle Griffin**

@kylegriffin1

**Sen. Elizabeth Warren is asking the Federal Reserve to break up Wells Fargo over its mistreatment of customers.**

*"Every new report of scandal and ongoing noncompliance by Wells Fargo represents a giant financial institution squeezing consumers to pad profits for its executives."*

11:00 AM · Sep 14, 2021 · TweetDeck

529 Retweets

33 Quote Tweets

2,365 Likes

**Sam Stein**

@samstein

*"This guy called me every single day, pretended to be my best friend, and then, he fucked me. He's not a good guy" — Trump on Kevin McCarthy, per Woodward and Costa*

12:05 PM · Sep 14, 2021

**WFLA NEWS**

@WFLA

**Parents of Florida teen accused of plotting school massacre speak out**

9:31 PM · Sep 13, 2021

**Lynn Gaskins, M.D.**

@DrGFla

Replying to

@WFLA

*And it sounds just like you thought it would. Not concerned her kid had a boatload of guns and was*



*planning a Columbine-style massacre. Nope. Just that he was in handcuffs. Woman facepalming*  
9:42 PM · Sep 13, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

**Kyle Griffin**  
@kylegriffin1

**Please do not get advice on vaccinations from Nicki Minaj.**

7:30 PM · Sep 13, 2021

@EllistonScott

Replying to

@kylegriffin1

*If I wanted advice on how to work a stripper pole I would ask Minaj for her expert opinions. When it comes to vaccines I stick to people who went to school for that shit. Not a rapper.*

7:32 PM · Sep 13, 2021 ·

**Anna Merlan**

@annamerlan

**I'm torn between wanting to talk about why rumors and conspiracy theories about vaccines damaging fertility are so common and wanting to make a series of unhelpful jokes about swollen testicles so I guess watch this space**

8:05 PM · Sep 13, 2021

**Liv Marks**

@OliviaLilyMarks

*Anna Wintour has left the Met Gala to check if Nicki Minaj's cousin's friend and his swollen balls are ok*

7:10 PM · Sep 13, 2021

**tjhenry**

@WQLoONWS

Replying to

@annamerlan

*Mine swelled up after 2nd Moderna shot. Lasted about two days.*

8:53 PM · Sep 13, 2021

**Public Citizen**

@Public\_Citizen

**Elon Musk got \$150,800,000,000 richer during the pandemic.**

**Jeff Bezos got \$75,000,000,000 richer during the pandemic.**

**Mark Zuckerberg got \$74,200,000,000 richer during the pandemic.**

*Meanwhile, over 38 million Americans faced hunger in 2020.*

4:11 PM · Sep 13, 2021 · Sprout Social  
2,266 Retweets  
158 Quote Tweets  
11.7K Likes

**Occupy Democrats**

@OccupyDemocrats

**BREAKING: Bob Enyart, a homophobic Trumper pastor & radio host dies of COVID** after calling for a vaccine “boycott” & calling Democrats “mask-nazis.” He gleefully read obituaries of AIDS victims while cranking Queen’s “Another One Bites the Dust.” RT IF YOU’RE PROUDLY VACCINATED!

1:51 AM · Sep 14, 2021 ·

**AccuWeather**

@accuweather

**Powerful wind gusts, rising storm surge and heavy rain slammed the Gulf Coast on Monday evening as Tropical Storm #Nicholas bore down on Texas.**

10:30 PM · Sep 13, 2021 ·

**Kyle Griffin**

@kylegriffin1

**WASHINGTON (AP) — Census: Share of Americans in poverty rose slightly to 11.4% in 2020, but COVID relief payments eased losses for many.**

10:30 AM · Sep 14, 2021 · TweetDeck

61 Retweets

4 Quote Tweets

273 Likes

**The Hoarse Whisperer**

@TheRealHoarse

*“This is heartbreaking. Seeing Jim Breuer was on my bucket list.” said no one... no one at all.*

Quote Tweet

NBC News

@NBCNews

· 17h

**Comedian and 'Saturday Night Live' alum Jim Breuer says he will not be performing at venues that require proof of Covid vaccination for guests.** <https://nbcnews.to/3htRgAU>

7:02 PM · Sep 13, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

973 Retweets

58 Quote Tweets

11.6K Likes

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**WFLA NEWS**

@WFLA

**St. Pete couple found passed out in truck with 4-year-old after snorting fentanyl & cocaine, police say**

(handsome guy in his 40's, ugly cow with pink hair) 11:00 AM · Sep 13, 2021

**Kyle Griffin**

@kylegriffin1

**This morning, the Capitol Police arrested a California man who had multiple knives in his truck near the Democratic National Committee HQ.**

The man said he was "on patrol" and began talking about white supremacist ideology and other rhetoric pertaining to white supremacy.

12:30 PM · Sep 13, 2021 · TweetDeck

641 Retweets

67 Quote Tweets

2,014 Likes

**Gigi Graciette**

@GigiGraciette

**Veronica Wolski, an outspoken anti-vaccine and anti-mask advocate, has died after spending weeks in hospital with COVID-19.**

Woman who QAnoners demanded hospital treat COVID with Ivermectin dies

Some of the biggest QAnon supporters urged fellow conspiracy theorists to call Amita Resurrection Hospital and urge Veronica Wolski be treated with the drug.

newsweek.com

7:56 AM · Sep 13, 2021 · Twitter Web App

303 Retweets

**Amee Vanderpool**

@girlsreallyrule 4h

**Can anyone else feel this ominous energy shift, or am I crazy? Wait...don't answer that. Face with tears of joy**

Lee Koren, PHR

@Bselected

Replying to

@girlsreallyrule

*Yup and it is a positive energy shift. TFG's dominos are falling, it will be Awesome.*

*Stay tuned!*

9:33 AM · Sep 13, 2021 · Twitter for Android

Opinion | *Trump's Dreaded Nickname* - The New York Times <https://www.nytimes.com> › 2021/02/17 › *trumps-dreaded...*

**Feb 17, 2021 — D.J.T. = T.F.G. ... Trump — excuse me, The Former Guy — was certainly paying attention. “Mitch is a dour, sullen, and unsmiling political ...**

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